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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/724,967
Filing Date	12/1/2003
First Named Inventor	Schroter
Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	FRG 10300

Sheet 1 of 1

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
JK		US- 6,041,825	3/28/2000	Smith et al.	
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>4</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
JK ↓		DE 38 90 614 C2	02/09/1989	Adaptaflex Ltd.		
		DE 195 33 920 A1	03/20/1997	Rasmussen GmbH		
		DE 197 25 051 A1	12/17/1998	Joma-Polytec		
		DE 101 28 220 A1	01/16/2003	Uniwel		
		JP 10220654 A	08/21/1998	Mitsugiron: KK		✓

Examiner Signature	<i>J. M. L.</i>	Date Considered	11-22-05
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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